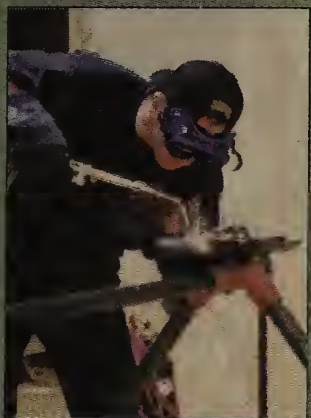


# SPOKE

## Conestoga College, Kitchener

JUNE 14, 1999

### What's Inside



Skills Canada - Exploring the creative works of national competitors.

PAGE 7



Skater's Haven - New skate park, Urban Circus, opens in Waterloo.

PAGE 9



Wallpaper Magazine - \$6.95 US for paper mache material.

PAGE 11

**COMMENTARY**  
Page 4  
In praise of our  
dads.

## 2,600 grads to be honoured at convocation ceremonies

By Charles Kuepfer

Plans are well under way for Conestoga College's 31st annual convocation ceremonies, which are to be held at the college's recreation centre June 22-23.

Graduates will receive certificates or diplomas and will wear the Conestoga College liriipe, a ceremonial shoulder sash. The sash represents successful completion of studies and readiness to enter their chosen vocations.

This year, about 2,600 graduates are eligible to attend convocation. John Sawicki, director of public affairs for the college, said the number of eligible graduates has typically been between 2,500 and 2,700 the last few years.

"It's about the usual number," he said.

Eligible students have received an information mailing about the convocation ceremonies from the registrar's office, Sawicki said, adding the college strongly recommends bringing only two to three guests due to seating limitations and for "feeding purposes."

There will be four major college-wide awards presented.

These include: the Governor General's academic medal, presented to the diploma graduate with the highest academic standing; the Mastercraft award, presented to the individual or student team producing the best program related technical project; the James W. Church achievement award, presented to the graduate who combines exemplary community service with outstanding academic achievement; and the Aubrey

Hagar distinguished teaching award, presented to the faculty member who has compiled a record of excellence in the areas of curriculum development, academic innovation, service to students and service to the college.

Sawicki said two of the major award winners have already been chosen.

There will be three ceremonies in all.

The first will be held at 4 p.m. on June 22 for graduates of the school of college access, the school of engineering and technology, the school of trades and apprenticeship and the training and development division. Linda Hasenfratz, president of the Linamar Corporation, will be the guest speaker.

The second ceremony begins at 7:30 p.m. on June 22 for graduates of the school of business and the continuing education division. Robert Irwin, Kitchener district director of Human Resources Development Canada, will be the guest speaker.

The third ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. on June 23 for graduates of the school of applied arts and the school of health sciences and community services. Harold Redekopp, vice-president of CBC television, will be the guest speaker.

Sawicki said the guest speakers are chosen partially for their relation to the college's programs and partially for their success in their area of expertise.

"They are primarily people who have made their mark in their own careers."

The convocation ceremonies have been taking place at the college's recreation complex since it opened in 1980.

'I'm sure we gave a few people heart attacks'



Story, page 12

Jessica Strype spreads her wings during the second annual Elements of Style charity hair and fashion show on May 30 at the Revolution nightclub in Waterloo.

(Photo by Lesley Turnbull)

### Long hours, little rest

## Skills Canada called success despite small audience

By Wayne Collins

Despite a less than overwhelming audience attendance for the Skills Canada competitions at Conestoga College's Kenneth E. Hunter recreation complex, national marshal George Corrin was happy with the whole event.

"We were disappointed with the crowd," said Corrin. "We were geared up for 500 (people) a day."

Corrin said he and his "helpers" had initially set up the gymnasium to handle a heavier traffic flow, but far fewer than expected actually showed up.

Physical resources staffer Pete Schlei said he had anticipated a larger crowd but that, in the end, he estimated only about 100 people per day came to see the competitions.

Both Corrin and Schlei had worked tirelessly all week with volunteers and college staff and said they were ready for a rest on Saturday evening.

"We've averaged close to 14 hours a day since last week," said Schlei.

As both men continued to work at closing down the various booths and packing away equipment, Corrin joked that they weren't young anymore.

Meanwhile, Corrin said he was going home happy and content that the whole week was a complete success. He praised the efforts of Schlei and Bruce Stockey, another volunteer, who contributed many hours to help make the week a success.

Corrin also praised the efforts of competitors from Montreal and Newfoundland who actually helped break the English/French language barrier in a special way.

"(I) don't speak French," he said giving "kudos" to the French-speaking students. "They would explain to us, always in English,

and would slow down so we could understand them."

Corrin went on to thank everyone from one Spoke reporter who assisted in a minor problem

George Corrin  
National Marshall

"We were disappointed with the crowd. We were geared up for 500 (people) a day."

at one point, to the week's food suppliers, Bingemans, and Schenker International, a Montreal trucking company which shipped supplies and equipment for the competition.

"On (our) way back we're (carrying heavier loads) now," said Robert Dumochel, Schenker's manager of conventions and trade shows. "Students leave their baggage and tool boxes behind to go

to the hockey game," he said in broken English.

While the last of the equipment was being wrapped up for the trucks, Corrin said safety was another major factor in the week's success.

"We had front-end loaders, fingernail machines, waxing machines, forklifts and Bobcats but there were no accidents. We promote safety at all times," he said as he boarded a Bobcat to pick up a skid filled with supplies.

Corrin's enthusiasm about the competition was centred more around participants' attitudes.

"(The participants) treated us with respect and no one person was demanding," said Corrin.

He said there was a positive energy flowing all week and everyone was at peak performance. Any situation that did come up was handled professionally and expertly.

"(They) were one heck of a team," he said.



# College president expects 'gentler' second Tory term

By Chadwick Severn

John Tibbits slept well on election night.

The president of Conestoga College went to bed knowing that the Progressive Conservatives would form a second straight majority government, ensuring there won't be a dramatic change in policy or funding from Queen's Park.

"I have to be careful about what I say," said Tibbits the day after the election. "I think the next four to five years, to paraphrase George Bush, will be gentler."

Tibbits has been at Conestoga College with all three parties in power. David Peterson led a majority Liberal government from 1987 until 1990, when Bob Rae took the NDP to power.

Tibbits said under Premier Mike Harris and the Tories tuition will likely continue rising.

"If you are in the inner caucus of the Harris government, university students can huff and puff all they want," said Tibbits. "Applications are going up. More people want to go to university."

While Tibbits made it clear that tuition going up isn't necessarily positive, he said it will lead to many positive things.

"It will force people to look at the system. I don't think it should be totally market-driven; otherwise you wouldn't have any philosophy or music. But you have to have a core part of the university kept alive and strong through subsidy."

"Why is it you can get a BA in piano, and yet our students are doing architectural CAD and only get a diploma? Our tuition is peanuts compared to what (university students) are paying. I know: I write the cheque for my son. By American standards, it's bargain basement."

Incumbent Tory candidates won all four area ridings. Tibbits said he would not be surprised to see some amalgamation in the area in the new mandate. Similar to what happened in Toronto in 1998.

"Something has to be done. We can't even get a bus to this campus from Cambridge. You'd think we were in the middle of Africa somewhere in a tropical rainforest. We'd like to see some integration of services."

One change Tibbits said he is looking forward to is a charter for colleges, leading to more autonomy, similar to universities. Although both institutions receive grants from the province, universities are independent corporations, while colleges are crown corporations, subjecting them to government regulations.

"We are now rated the No. 1 col-

Tibbits said that the Waterloo Region school boards get around \$5,900 per student, while the College receives about \$2,900.

"They've had the luxury for 20 years up until now, that anytime they needed money they just raised taxes. If we could do that I'd probably be out playing golf this morning."

"We've had to manage this place very, very carefully. I think taking away local taxation from the school boards had to be done. Frankly, it was being abused, absolutely abused."

Although Tibbits agrees with the education reforms, he criticized the Tories for the implementation.

"I would not have attacked teachers as teachers. I think the average secondary school teacher is coming in and trying to do the best they can. We're not getting the quality we need for the money we're spending, and I think

everybody knows that. People like Earl Manners and others have been less than willing to be open to change, but the government... just blasted them and I think what happened is they demoralized the elementary and high school teachers."

Tibbits said that this may have helped Harris instead of hurting him, as teachers' unions were seen as unreasonable.

"There's a huge difference between Earl Manners and the average teacher. You look at countries that have gone to war over the years. Japan attacked the United States at Pearl Harbor. Were the Japanese bad people or was it a question of the emperor had been hijacked by a small quasi-military? The military had tremendous influence over the emperor and they attacked."

But Tibbits said with Harris in charge for the next four years, he shouldn't have trouble sleeping. Compared to the previous majority government, he's quite content.

"I think the NDP were a disaster, personally. But that's my own opinion."

"Our tuition is peanuts compared to what (university students) are paying. I know: I write the cheque for my son."

John Tibbits,  
Conestoga College president

lege in the system. We don't want to be the 18th best university. We are not a university; we're not gearing up to be a university. I think that was a mistake to turn Ryerson into a university.

Now they just want to be like every other university because there are forces at play: you fall into the Maclean's rankings and what matters is how many tenured professors you have with PhDs. We'd like to be turned into something like a polytechnic."

Tibbits feels education as an issue was a bit overblown, and had little to do with Education Minister Dave Johnson's defeat in the riding of Don Valley East. He attributed Johnson's loss mainly to entrenched Liberal support for David Caplan and realignment of Johnson's former riding.

Even with Johnson's loss, Tibbits does not feel the Tories were completely unfounded in their reforms.

"All this business about the elementary and secondary schools being underfunded is just nonsense. Public schools are not underfunded. We would be happy to be in the situation the public schools are in."

## ACAATO to approach province

By Anna Sajfert

Although the curtain has been rolled down, following the provincial election show, a small part of the audience still keeps its eye on the key players.

The Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO) implemented an election strategy advocacy package. This package was to be originally used in addressing colleges' priorities and concerns in the pre-election timeframe.

However, considering how short-lived the 1999 provincial election was, this advocacy package is now defunct, said Kevin Mullan, secretary-treasurer of Conestoga's board of governors.

He said even though the college

is not going to address its key issues to the local government, it will approach the provincial government.

ACAATO's election strategy advocacy package includes the following measures:

- reinvestment in physical infrastructure and learning technology
- support for increased capacity, which includes funding of \$2.5 billion by 2005 to ensure that access to post-secondary education continues during a time of population growth and due to double cohort (the phrase being used to refer to the large number of graduating students that will result from the revised secondary curriculum).

Other issues which ACAATO addresses are:

- stabilized funding formula
- enterprise models (ACAATO recommends that certain restrictions, which prevent colleges from leading innovation, be removed)
- colleges are seeking new sources of revenue and, therefore, require more flexibility for innovative partnerships with the private sector
- request that the Ministry of Education and Training be authorized to approve applied degrees to selected Ontario college programs.

The strategy, which was put together by the province's 25 colleges, will serve the colleges after the election as a continuation of an effective grassroots lobbying effort, according to an election strategy sheet.

## Testing, testing



Gerry Naklusi, civil engineering faculty, uses a data collector and total station to test the gathering of electronic typographical field data to be downloaded in hopes of producing an autocad drawing. (photo by Michelle Lehmann)

## Women's campaign group organized forum in club

By Carly Benjamin

The June 3 election provided students with the opportunity to voice their concerns about their future.

Tuition increases, quality of education, pay equity and health-care cuts, were all hot targets for the competing political parties at a forum organized by the Women - Our Votes Count Campaign, at the Optimist Club in Stratford.

About 50 concerned students assembled in the small auditorium to hear the different parties unveil their stance on various issues of interest to women.

Women - Our Votes Count Campaign is a non-partisan campaign by women's organizations across Ontario to encourage all women in Ontario to vote.

Literature distributed by the group said that in Ontario today, women know that public policy and political issues affect the lives of themselves, their children and their communities. They need to know candidates for election in their area will have a platform addressing concerns in their daily lives. They need to know they will have equal access to candidates and to the polls on voting day.

Booklet provided at the forum by the women's campaign group, detailed the struggle behind women's right to vote.

It stated women won the vote; they were not given it or granted it. It was a lengthy struggle that had to be fought and won on many fronts.

## OFF CAMPUS

Not all women gained this fundamental democratic right at the same time. Aboriginal women and women of colour had to wait much longer than white women did.

For the first 50 years of our nation's existence, all women were denied the right to participate in civic life.

John Wilkinson, elected candidate for the Perth-Middlesex Liberal party, presented facts on the status of women in today's Ontario.

He stated women working full-time earn only 73.4 per cent of what men earn in the same situation.

"One out of six earns less than \$15,000 a year and more than one-third work in low-paying jobs," Wilkinson said.

"In spite of this, the budget for pay equity in Ontario was slashed by \$50 million."

He said 80 per cent of single mothers with two children under the age of seven live beneath the poverty line.

"The number of children living in poverty has increased by 116 per cent between 1989 and 1996," he said.

Bert Johnson, elected representative for the Perth-Middlesex region's Progressive Conservative party, was not in attendance and unable to defend the cuts his government has implemented.



# Student guides help you find your way

By Brian Smiley

Visitors or students at Conestoga who get easily lost may want to try the information centre's student guides.

These tour guides are hired at the information centre and then paid to guide students and visitors around the college.

Melody Steinman, an information specialist, said the program is quite successful.

"We've been running the program for four years and it has went really well," she said.

The information office usually accepts applications twice a year. There are 10 tour guides who are hired in September.

However, some return to school for their next year and retain the jobs, which limits openings. Some guides are also hired in January. The starting rate last year for a tour guide was \$7 an hour.

After applicants are interviewed, and hired, they go for a night of orientation. The guides, who work between two to 10 hours a week, are then ready to show students, parents, specialized groups and

visitors around the college. The tour can involve one to 15 people and can be tailored to the person or group. Usually the tours last up to an hour.

The program gives the student a chance to learn and interact with a different side of the college.

Steinman said the program is important to the guides, visitors and staff.

"It really builds bridges," she said. "Their work is invaluable."

The program gives the student guides a chance to learn and interact with a different side of the college (the staff).

"It gives them a chance to learn about the college," said Carol Pease, information team leader.

Sandra Gomes, a third-year accounting student and tour guide, agrees about the interaction in the information centre office.

"At first I was a bit apprehensive, but in this office we're like one happy family," she said.

This will be Gomes's second year being a guide. She said she applied and accepted the job because she likes working and meeting people. Gomes said it takes an outgoing personality and patience to be a tour guide.

"They (the visitors) ask basic questions," she said. "You don't necessarily spoonfeed them, you just have to be patient and answer their questions."

Gomes said the working atmosphere at the information office is great and she will miss her job when she graduates.



Sandra Gomes, a tour guide at the college, shows students around the campus on June 1.  
(Photo by Brian Smiley)

"It's a lot of teamwork and we help each other," she said. "I wish I could come back next year."

There are no openings for September, as all guides have been hired. However, Gomes will be graduating at the end of the next

school year, which means an opening.

Anyone interested in further information about being a tour guide or taking a tour should call the information centre at 748-5220, ext. 656.

## Annual directors meeting leads to athletics changes

By Brian Smiley

The annual general meeting involving Ontario's 29 colleges and their athletic directors was held from May 3-7 in North Bay and there were changes made to some policies and procedures.

Ian James, manager of athletics and recreation at Conestoga College, said one of the changes, which will have an effect on student athletes, revolves around the varsity soccer season.

"I was strongly against going to 10 games for varsity men's and women's soccer," he said.

Beginning in September, both teams' schedules will increase four games, from the six they used to play.

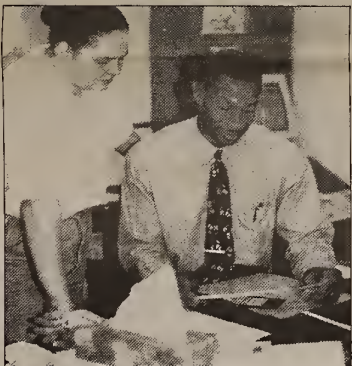
James was against this proposal because he believes students already have too much pressure at school. With the increased schedule, he feels students won't have enough time for their studies, part-time jobs and social lives.

The soccer season runs from September until the end of October or beginning of November. James said this period of time is stressful for students and adding games to an already tough schedule only adds more pressure.

"That's the most crucial time of the year for the (student) athletes," he said. "If they don't make it academically by November, they're done."

Another factor that bothers James is the amount of time students will receive in instruction. The old schedule only had one game a week, whereas the new one may have two games per week. This dramatically cuts into the time the athletes have to practise.

Another contentious issue with James at the meeting was the amount of scholarships, bursaries



Ian James, manager of athletics and recreation, and Diane Santos, media relations technician, go over some papers.  
(Photo by Brian Smiley)

and gifts student athletes can receive. Right now a student can receive up to \$1,000 in scholarships as well as unlimited bursaries and gifts. However, James would like to see this changed.

"What I was fighting for was that the total should only be \$1,000. Otherwise you get in a situation where you're paying the athletes to come to your school," he said.

In other minor changes, varsity hockey will see a crackdown on the violence that was evident during last season. In an effort to rid the game of dirty play, a new rule has been instituted regarding match penalties and gross misconducts. Last year a player was ejected from a particular game in which he was assessed one of those penalties and suspended for the following game.

This year a player will be suspended for five games for a first-time offence. For a second infraction of this type, the player will be suspended for the season.

James said these meetings may not accomplish everything each school wants, but they are productive.

## Writing centre to expand for upcoming semester

By Eileen Diniz

Conestoga College's writing centre was so successful when it opened for the spring semester in February 1999 that it has changed locations to 2A69, and it will be bigger and better this coming semester.

The goal of the centre is to support students in all programs to become better writers.

It is accessible to students through self-referral or at the suggestion of an instructor, said Lynn Gresham, the learning advisor with the learning opportunities project.

The writing centre includes the following resources for students: a self-help checklist to analyse their work, files referenced to the checklist for further information on particular areas of concern, writing textbooks, exercise books and handouts about the writing process, a binder with grammar exercises for English as a second language students and reference to an Internet Web site specific to ESL students.

Other resources include information about grammar Web sites, referral to the Literacy Lab for writing programs such as Writer's Helper and Inspiration, use of the writing centre's computers and individual help from tutors on staff.

The centre is going to function on an appointment basis, said Gresham. They can be made on a drop-in basis or booked ahead of time. The students will then be able to work through the self-help information which they can access on their own or receive individual help from tutors.

"Students can just walk in and



Lynn Gresham, learning advisor with the learning opportunities project, will be running and organizing the writing centre in the fall.  
(Photo by Eileen Diniz)

if the tutor is free at the time, it is fine," said Gresham. "If the tutor is not free they (students) will obviously have to make an appointment."

Gresham said a lot of students struggle with the whole writing process, from being given the assignment to not knowing how to approach it.

"The whole research piece, brainstorming, finding your thesis right through to the proof-reading stages," she said. "They also have trouble with how to proofread and how to go about their paper."

She added that the process of writing can often be frustrating

for students in all disciplines.

The hours of operation for the centre will depend on the availability of the tutors, who are senior students with an excellence in the written language.

"They (tutors) will go through the regular training and then on top of that we give them extra training for working in the writing centre," said Gresham.

The centre will officially open the first week of October 1999. For more information you can contact Gresham at ext. 627, the student services learning advisor at ext. 236, or Marian Mainland, special needs co-ordinator, at ext. 478.



## Fathers' Day sparks cherished

With Father's Day coming next week, I think of my dad, my husband and the fathers my sons may someday become.



Janet Wakutz

my first serious boyfriend when I was 15. I thought the world was ending, but there was dad with a loving hug and healing words.

I remember how he clutched my hand and walked me down the aisle at my wedding and his words of encouragement when I am parenting my own kids.

The lessons he taught and the knowledge that his love is there is with me always.

On Father's Day I feel it's only right to honour my dad. Also, I thank my husband's father for the guidance, lessons and experience that shaped who he is and how he parents our own four children.

I wonder what kind of fathers my sons will be. I hope they will learn the best that their dad offers them, and inherit the best of their grandfathers before them.

As parents, we wish our children could learn from

our wisdom and not from having to painfully experience the tough lessons. So too, we hope our children take the best of what we give and learn from our parenting mistakes so that our grandchildren will have an even better childhood than our own.

Call it the circle of life, if you like. Grandfathers, dads and sons are relationships and treasures that need to be nurtured, appreciated and remembered.

Remember Roots, when the main character reverently held his daughter up over his head and named her? In the Lion King, Rafiki held Simba up in the same manner and if you've ever seen a new father hold his baby or a grandfather holding his new grandchild, you have witnessed the pride that exists in the circle of life.

I believe it is our job to keep that circle unbroken by honouring family, and honouring dads on Father's Day and every day throughout the year.

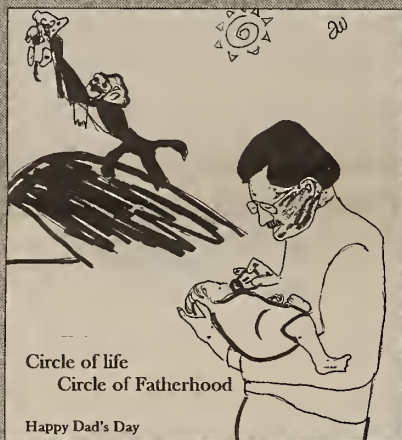
For the past couple of months I have been half my father's age. Do I have half his experience, wisdom or knowledge? I doubt that. As he turned 65 a few days ago, I thought about what he was doing at my age. Certainly he wasn't in school, he was earning a living, working hard to support his wife and five children.

He graduated Grade 8 from a one-room schoolhouse under the guidance of the respected Miss Clara of Burford, Ont. My father got his high school equivalency, and during his five years in the Navy participated in the Korean War.

Dad successfully worked his way up from a press operator to plant manager and ended his career with the Ministry of Labour.

But, what did he do as my dad? He's been there when I needed him. I remember swimming in the Atlantic Ocean near Florida when I was five with my dad and my inflatable horse around my waist. A huge wave crashed over us and I went under the water. Unfortunately, so did my dad's swimming trunks. It seemed like forever that the water was over my head; the awful taste of salt in my mouth made me gag. Having recovered his trunks, there were my dad's strong arms lifting me out of the water.

I remember campgrounds that sold wood by the armload and my dad's strong muscular arms being piled as high as we could reach with firewood and him effortlessly, or so it seemed, carrying it back to the campsite. I remember a big fight I had with



## ISO 9001 causes mass hysteria

In the 1960s counterculture novel *The Crying of Lot 49*, author Thomas Pynchon presents the notion of an underground society to which most people are oblivious. Pynchon's point is that life is so complex, nothing is ever really fully understood.

Or, at least, that's what the Coles Notes say.

Pynchon's mysterious novel sprang to mind when, earlier this year, nondescript newsletters started appearing around campus referring to something called ISO 9001. Was it a space-age car with one of those creative innovations, like a steering wheel on the outside? Could it be the newest invention from the company that gave us the Pocket Fisherman, the Clapper and the less well-known Nosehair Remover?

I took the newsletter home to study, but after reading only a few words, was immediately knocked unconscious. That's right, knocked unconscious, not put to sleep by some baffling corporate doublepeak. The strange power of ISO 9001 was quite intriguing. I had to



John Oberholtzer

find out more.

But most people I talked to were caught up in the important issues of the day — the Toronto Maple Leafs and Pamela Lee (or Anderson-Lee or Silicone-Riddled or whatever she's called). Not wanting to be an outcast, I began a steady diet of hockey games and Baywatch reruns.

But now that both Pam and the Leafs have been deflated, my interest in ISO 9001 has been rekindled. Another newsletter appeared around campus, and I was determined not to fall under its hypnotic spell.

ISO 9001 stuck with me, even after having my stomach pumped.

After 14 cups of coffee and 10 chocolate doughnuts, I was able to read a few sentences. Unfortunately, a sudden caffeine/sugar attack necessitated a trip to the emergency room.

Yet something about ISO 9001 stuck with me, even after having my stomach pumped. When asked a question in a journalism class the next day, I answered, "The quality system is built on a contin-

uous review of critical processes, with a means of instituting corrective actions wherever and whenever necessary."

Since the question posed was "Who is the premier of Saskatchewan?", this answer was slightly off-base. But it sounded so forceful, no one questioned my response.

I came across an old issue of Spoke which added to the confusion. In an article in the Jan. 25 edition, ISO was defined as "an international series of generic quality standards which provide guidelines for establishing a quality assurance system within an organization." I took this to mean "all those under 5'8" will be banished to the salt mines".

As I raced out of the school, I noticed a group of people bowing before an ISO banner. I averted my eyes from the flashy logo and sped off campus.

I breathed a little easier as I turned my car onto Manitou Drive, but soon noticed that every company I looked at, from Lear Corporation to Waterloo Furniture Components to Canada Alloy Castings, had an "ISO Registered" sign on the side of their building. Despair...

I've since accepted ISO 9001 into my life. After all, anything so prevalent must be beneficial.

## Canadian Red Cross appealing to needs of smoke-deprived refugees

Both the Canadian Red Cross and Rothmans, one of Canada's biggest cigarette producers, are unwilling to donate

tobacco to Kosovo refugees living in this country. And with warning labels like smoking can kill you, you would think that the last thing refugees need is a puff of cancer.

However, on May 19 the Toronto Star reported an appeal by the Canadian Red Cross to any group or citizen willing to help satisfy the cravings of smoke-deprived refugees, even though the agency cannot help the refugees itself.

Cigarettes have not been provided by the Red Cross since the Second World War, when care packages sent to prisoners of war included tobacco, according to The Star.

There must be a reason for this. Could it be that donating ciga-



Brian Gall

rettes is illegal? Yes, but only for some, it seems.

John McDonald, director of public affairs at Rothmans, told The Star that their company is prohibited under the Tobacco Act from giving donations of smokes. "We'd like to assist but we contacted Health Canada and they wouldn't make an exception," he said.

In addition, Bob Hubbard, president of the Kingston branch of the Canadian Red Cross, told The Star, "We are not able to provide any substance like that directly."

Doesn't this prove anything? Smoking is deadly, remember? So why are citizens allowed to contribute to heart and lung disease, when it is illegal for professionals to do so?

It is not as if these refugees haven't had their share of tar and rat poison already. And for a group whose majority smokes unfiltered cigarettes (according to The Star), Canadian cancer sticks don't measure up to their taste for toxins anyway.

These people are just going to

end up sucking down more paint remover than ever.

Though our strongest brands, like Export A unfiltered, are preferred by refugees because they are the closest to Turkish cigarettes, they are willing to inhale just about any kind.

"I don't think they're being picky and when they run out, I think they'll smoke anything," Hubbard told The Star.

So why do they need cigarettes at all if they don't even care what kind they are?

Well, apparently, smokers with no nicotine who are worrying about their friends and family back home need something to take their mind off things.

How about a traditional Canadian beer instead? That would be both delicious and refreshing, as opposed to stinking, carbon monoxide-filled cigarettes.

I have a feeling refugees will be wishing they had a few frosty mugs full of Molson Export ale instead of a pack of Export A pollutants, when the next hot day comes.

# SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

Editor: Brian Smiley; News Editor: Elizabeth Sackrider;

Student Life Editor: Wayne Collins; Issues & Activities Editor: Carly Benjamin;

Photo Editor: Charles Kuepfer, Linda Wright and Anna Sajfert;

Production Manager: Janet Wakutz; Advertising Manager: Eileen Diniz;

Circulation Manager: Chadwick Severn; Faculty Supervisors: Jerry Frank and Christina Jonas;

SPOKE's address is 299 Doon Valley Dr., Room 4B15, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4.

SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by the Doon Student Association (DSA). The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the DSA. Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect or MS Word file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).



# Skills Canada volunteers benefit from experience

## CAMPUS QUESTION

**What do contestants gain from competing in the Skills Canada competition?**



Colette Wilkens, esthetic expert, from Montreal.

Story and photos by Brad Dugard

Skills Canada volunteers and contestants feel they benefit most from the experience they gain head-to-head high-pressure competition which is part of the Skills Canada-Ontario competition.

The contestants, from across Canada, overwhelming said the experience gained in their field was both the reason they signed up for the contest and the main thing they gained from taking part.

The Skills Canada-Team Canada competition, which ran from May 31 to June 4, involved high school and college-aged people competing in the skilled trades in the run-offs to the world competition being held in Montreal in November.

Bruce Stockie, an employee of Automated Tooling System and volunteer with Skills Canada, said the participants gain experience in the application of their trade.

"They learn to work under pressure like it is in the real

world," he said.

Colette Wilkens, the esthetic competition expert from Montreal, agreed.

"(The competitors) are gaining a lot of personal experience. It is like two years of working after

The largest challenge to Philippe LeBlanc of Nova Scotia was overcoming the stress of performing in front of others.

they complete all the training involved in this type of contest," she said.

She said a participant might put up to 300 hours of training for this one competition.

Jennifer Upton, registered in the women's dressmaking competition, explained how she gained as much from the training as from the actual contest.

"I've gained a lot of experience

from the training. It has given me perspective on what real world competition is like," she said.

The largest challenge to Philippe LeBlanc of Nova Scotia was overcoming the stress of performing in front of others.

"(My teammate and I) have gained experience in learning to manage stress, especially with our competitor right next to us," said the landscape and gardening student. He added that aside from the constant observation, Skills Canada really re-creates real world tasks. Sixteen-year-old television and video production contestant Sarah Kalnay, from Yellowknife, N.W.T., said the competition allows students to explore what the working world can offer.

"I think this competition helps show people that there are skills out there to learn. If one particular trade doesn't interest you there are plenty more," she said.

Perry Medina, a graphic design competitor also from Yellowknife, said he has gained more self-con-

fidence from his participation.

"It has given me the chance to express my ideas. I've also

Sixteen-year-old television and video production contestant Sarah Kalnay, said the competition allows students to explore what the working world can offer.

learned a few new tricks," he said.

Annaleisa Waito said the competition was a humbling experience for her.

"The pressure of being watched and criticized. You don't always get that in your workplace but it teaches you to work under a different kind of pressure," said the culinary arts competitor.

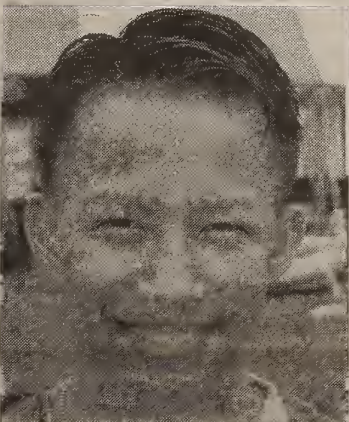
She said if you can handle Skills competition pressure then you can handle anything.



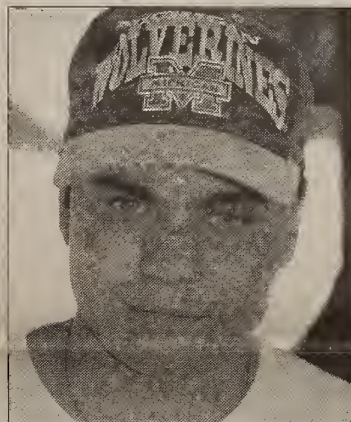
Sarah Kalnay, TV and video production competitor, from Northwest Territories.



Annaleisa Waito, culinary arts competitor, from Nova Scotia.



Perry Medina, graphic design competitor, from Northwest Territories.



Philippe LeBlanc, gardening and landscape design competitor, from Nova Scotia.



Jennifer Upton, ladies dressmaking competitor, from Manitoba.

## Skills Canada winners

# Centre in the Square hosts award ceremony

By Andrea Jesson

Provincial flags are flying and the results are in.

On June 6, Centre in the Square hosted the Skills Canada awards ceremony where 40 of Canada's young skilled tradespeople waited for their name to be announced to represent their country at the 35th World Skills Competition in Montreal.

Over the previous week, Conestoga College hosted the run-off championships for Skills Canada to determine which 40 tradespeople would make up Team Canada.

From welding to esthetics, from British Columbia to Newfoundland, Karen Redman, MP for the Kitchener Centre and new honorary member of Team Canada, said the skills and trades of young people are key to what Canada will look like in the future.

"Our young people are lifelong learners," said Redman. "We are doing this for the economic security of young people."

As well, Gerald Tremblay, honorary president of the 35th World Skills Competition, said the competitions are also a way



Karen Redman MP (far left) and Steve Goodwin, executive director of Skills Canada applaud Team Canada after introducing them for the first time on June 6 at the Centre in the Square at the closing ceremonies.

(Photo by Andrea Jesson)

of benefiting the entire country.

"It is to enhance the skills of young people to increase Canada's wealth," he said.

Redman said she truly believes

in the need for Skills Canada and is concerned about the desperate need for skilled workers in our country.

"I believe Skills Canada is a

way of creating partnerships with education and the private sector," said Redman.

According to a Skills Canada news release Canada faces a dras-

tic shortage in skilled workers as we enter the new millennium.

The shortage could lead to employers looking outside of Canada to fill positions rather than employing Canadians with good job opportunities.

The government's next focus, after the deficit, will be skills and trades, Redman said.

The awards presentation went well for Ontario.

They swept gold, silver and bronze medals in the following categories: robotics, precision machining, plumbing and photography. From Nov. 11-14 about 600 youths, under 22 years of age, from 34 countries and 41 trade and technology areas, will compete against the best in the world. According to the news release it will be the first time Canada will host the event.

About 100,000 visitors are expected in Montreal to watch the competitions in Olympic Stadium in front of \$15-million worth of technical machinery and equipment.

Youth Employment Strategy, a Government of Canada initiative, is the sponsor of the 1999 World Skills competitions and is spending \$6.7 million on the event.



## SKILLS CANADA

# Dressmaker's talent makes her a winner

By Andrea Jesson

Jozee Dulude first realized her student Emilie Dubois's dressmaking talents were exceptional when she attended a design and dressmaking workshop in Lyon, France. Dubois's work was equal to her contemporaries world-wide and Dulude knew her student had what it takes to be one of the best.

Dubois lived up to her former teacher's expectations — winning a place on Team Canada.

"I went to the workshop and compared," said Dulude. "I predict we will be one of the top five countries in the 35th World Competitions."

For the past two years Dubois has been competing at regional, provincial and national skills competitions in dressmaking, winning gold medals along the way.

She found herself competing at Conestoga College, Skills Canada's host college, for the run-off championships during Skills Canada-Ontario from May 31 to June 4.

Dulude taught Dubois for two years at the Centre Pierre-Dupuy in Montreal where she first set eyes on 17-year-old Dubois' work. After a hard road, Dulude said she finally encouraged the shy, talented Dubois to enter the competitions.

Dulude studied fashion design



Emilie Dubois of Montreal is working under pressure at the Skills Canada run-off competitions at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre. Dubois won a place as a member of Team Canada and will be competing in the 35th World Skills competition in Montreal in November.

(Photo by Andrea Jesson)

for three years at College Marie-Victorin in Montreal. She has been teaching for a number of years and also owns a designing company for men's and women's fashions and accessories.

When she was asked to be the expert for the competitions she was delighted to contribute her talents and watch her student at work again.

It was Dulude's responsibility to choose the trainers for each com-

petitor and, therefore, she couldn't communicate with her student, due to conflict of interest.

Although Dulude's expectations were high for her student, as the honorary expert she said she was very fair to all the competitors and knew it would be a fight until the end.

"It's a very tough competition," said Dulude. "They're in their own bubble when they're working. They work fast and aren't

distracted easily."

Because each trainer was also a judge, Dulude said she worked out a coding system so the apparel wasn't identified with the competitor.

However, the fight for Team Canada called for mediation. Dulude believed one of the judge's decisions was not reflective of the quality and called upon another judge to pick the best of the best.

"I was fighting for the

best one," said Dulude.

Tension and pressure aside, the competitors were anxious. Dulude said Dubois knew something was wrong and recalls her saying: "I did the best I could and I'm proud of what I've done. If I don't deserve it, then I don't deserve it."

However, the mediating judge, Brenda Speirs-Fryatt from Winnipeg, Man., felt the initial judging was fair in the end and Dubois deserved the win.

"The best (competitor) won," Speirs-Fryatt said.

Dulude now admits that Dubois's work was almost perfect and she believes this experience will provide Dubois with excellent career opportunities.

At the end of a stressful week Dubois said she was happy with the results. She's proud to represent Canada in Montreal but is relieved the competition is over.

After a year of training for her most important competition yet, Dubois said her concentration was critical.

"I had to concentrate," said Dubois. "I had no time to lose. It was a concern for me the whole time."

Dubois's trainer and one of the three judges, Francoise Grenon, said they haven't decided what is in store for Dubois before Montreal, they are just taking it step by step.

"I'm looking forward to relaxing," said Dubois.

## New esthetics competition classed as demonstration at this year's Skills

By Lesley Turnbull

This year, Skills Canada added another competition to its list: esthetics.

The Skills Canada competition, which ran from May 31 to June 6, included esthetics, for the first time, in the seven-day event.

"The first time (a new trade is included in the competition) it is called a demonstration," said Colette Wilkins, esthetics expert. "If it goes well, it will become a part of the competition next year."

The Skills Canada competition consisted of approximately 1,400 youths who had won regional and provincial competitions. There were 45 skilled trade and technological contest areas. Competitors from high school, community college and apprentice

courses were eligible to compete.

Four estheticians - Jessika Lessard, Melanie De Champlain and Marie-Pier Morin of Quebec, plus Shannon Percy of Saskatchewan - competed in the esthetics' four-day event.

Areas of competition were manicure, basic facial, foot care, lukewarm and hot wax, back care (including massage), specific care for the face, day makeup and fantasy makeup.

"Specific care is like a facial but is more intensive," said Wilkins.

Friday afternoon the fantasy makeup competition took place.

Shannon Percy created a modern butterfly design on the face of her model. She used a lot of silver and black makeup. Rhinestones were placed on the forehead and glitter was used around the eyes.

Marie-Pier Morin used blues and greens as well as red hearts to create an underwater scene on her model's forehead. Two kissing fish were drawn just above the eyes.

Jessika Lessard chose pink, blue and black for her fantasy design. A net was drawn on the model's forehead, extending just below the eyes with black liner. Pink lipstick was used on the lips. Blue and pink eye shadow

was placed the eyelids.

"Each model's face was created very different from one another's," said Denice Hillecock, a model for the competition.

The winner, who was to be announced on June 6 at the closing ceremony, will move on to the World Skills competition (WSC), which will be held Nov. 11-14 at Olympic Stadium in Montreal. The esthetician representing Canada will compete against six other countries in the hopes of becoming the best in the world.

"We've heard there are two other countries interested in competing in esthetics as well," said Wilkins.

She said that employers would be looking to hire competitors of the WSC because they know that they are talented.

"Instead of (the competitors) having to knock on the doors of potential employers, the employers will be knocking on their doors," said Wilkins.

Before the Skills Canada competition, the competitors for esthetics received psychological training in Quebec.

"They will also have training after Skills Canada for the world's because the difficulties in the event become higher," Wilkins said.

As well, she said, each competitor will have a personal trainer with them, which in most cases is their esthetics teacher.

Wilkins will be going to the World Skills competition as the chief trainer for the event.

### Cutting edge skills



Jordan Hindbo of Alberta is welding shower fixture parts for his project in the run-off for the 35th World Skills competitions in Montreal. Hindbo placed third in plumbing for a spot on Team Canada.

(Photo by Andrea Jesson)



Shannon Percy, left, applies day makeup to Pamela McLure during the Skills Canada esthetics competition. (Photo by Lesley Turnbull)



# Landscape competition leaves lasting impression

By Brad Dugard

The Skills Canada competition is leaving Conestoga College with a permanent garden.

The landscape design competition will leave the paving stone patio and flagstone-walled garden outside of the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

The garden, using 16 cubic yards of sand, 56 yards of stone dust, eight tons of flagstone and six tons of unilock paving stone, was assembled as part of the national run-off competition in June.



Pictured above is the result of the Skills Canada landscape competition outside door 8 at the recreation centre.

(Photo by Brad Dugard)

scape competition in this area.

"They had a problem getting the stone for the wall. It was supposed to be four inches thick but they could not find it so we went with a thinner stone," he said.

He said after the competition the top layer of stone was to be removed and re-installed with cement instead of the stone dust.

"The dust is great for a smooth level base and it is easy to work with and maintain, but if people try to sit on a wall held together with the stone dust they might knock the top stone loose," he said.

Desmarais said although the stone dust is hard to find it is catching on again in landscaping. "Many people stopped using it when concrete came on the mar-

ket. Now we have reclaimed this forgotten technology and you will see it used more often.

While too busy to talk much, the four competitors, Pierre-Luc Lampron and Patrick Pequette from Quebec, and Philippe LeBlanc and Mathew Blackburn from Nova Scotia, agreed the competition simulated real-life experience.

"Working with all these top-of-the line tools and with (these) materials is what it would be like in a landscape company," said Lampron with the help of a translator. "Using new ideas, like the stone dust, gives us the experience necessary when we finish out schooling. It is what we will use on actual job (sites)."

## Skills Canada

# Sole bricklayer races against time

By Andrea Jesson

"When they're going up against all the other countries they're taking their best with them," said George Corrin, Skills Canada marshal. Like Corrin, many people call it the skilled trades Olympics. National competitions make up Team Canada who then go to the international competitions in a city selected by the International Vocational Training Organization. This year the 35th World Skills competitions will be held mid-November in Montreal and Kevin Dollmont said he is positive he will be there, in part because he was the only competitor in the bricklaying competition.

Earlier this month, Dollmont, a third-year apprentice at Scorpio Masonry in Edmonton, Alta., built a wall 1,600 metres by 1,990 metres in the team Canada run-off world competitions at Conestoga College.

Gilles Berube, the designer of the wall and a bricklaying expert, said he designed the wall to represent the 36th World Skills Competitions in 2001 in Seoul, South Korea. The wall consists of two dimensions. The first is a replica of the Korean flag and the second is the number 36 and WSC (World Skills Competitions) built in the wall along the bottom.

Dollmont said he was fortunate to be the only competitor because by the end of the week he found himself running out of time and

struggling with the design.

"Even though there's no competition I still have a lot of stress," he said. "This teaches me a lesson for Montreal and what's to come. If I times my stress now by 100 that's how much stress I'll have in Montreal."

Dollmont said while building the wall he found a problem with the design of the Yin-Yang in the flag and the blueprint needed to be altered.

"I'm not confident I will finish it (the wall) before Friday (June 4), but I don't think it will hurt my chances of going to Montreal," said Dollmont. "I'm pretty much guaranteed a position in the world competitions."

However, Corrin believes the intent is to provide young people with challenges rather than problems and although the standards are high the challenges are meant to test the high-tech



Kevin Dollmont of Edmonton, Alta., a bricklayer, works on the wall that is a replica of the Korean flag for the 36th World competitions in Korea.

Dollmont won his place on team Canada and will be competing in the 35th World Skills Competitions in Montreal in November.

(Photo by Andrea Jesson)

trades and skills of each competitor.

Despite the challenges Dollmont was up against, he kept a positive attitude and continued to shine at his skilled trade. And, like all competitors, he said by the end of the week he would have accomplished his best work.

"It's been a long week," said Dollmont. "I'm really looking forward to sleeping."



Tyler Marion, 21, of Dawson Creek, B.C., works on his carpentry project for Skills Canada in the Woodworking Centre of Ontario at Doon campus on June 2.

(Photo by Janet Wakutz)

## Hard work with Skills Canada Woodworkers compete for 1999 Team Canada spot

By Janet Wakutz

One might have expect the sawdust to be flying at the Woodworking Centre of Ontario located at the Doon Campus of Conestoga College during the Ontario Skills Competition held the first week of June. They'd have been wrong.

Competitors were hard at work but safety measures were in place, including guards and

The students had done well in last year's Canadian competition and had been training since, he said.

The competition lasts four days for a total of 22 hours. Bramer said the students received plans at the beginning of the competition and will complete the project by the end.

An example of such a project is the cabinet-making competition where a table was to

"It is extremely challenging with time constraints."

Mark Bramer,  
cabinet making expert,  
woodworking faculty



dust bags on equipment.

Students under the age of 22 competed in cabinet making, joinery, carpentry and pattern making. While the students looked at plans, carefully calculated measurements and operated equipment, judges made the rounds of the workshop and observed the students' activities.

Mark Bramer, cabinet-making expert and a faculty member of Conestoga's woodworking programs, said the students were competing to find out who would be on Team Canada for the 1999 International Skills Competition.

be constructed that included a drawer, lids and fancy veneer work.

"It is extremely challenging with the time constraints," said Bramer.

The competitors, some dressed in jeans, some in shorts, and others in coveralls, worked diligently in the warm conditions of the workshop, some only pausing shortly to take a sip from a cooler jug under their benches.

The competitors from all across Canada receive half their marks during production and half on the final project from the three judges in attendance.

The students were competing to find out who would be on Team Canada for the 1999 International Skills Competition.



# Firearms safety course not a shot in the dark

By John Oberholtzer

If there's one thing Don Gibson doesn't want, it's someone from his class following in the footsteps of Elmer Fudd.

Gibson, who teaches the Canadian firearms safety course and test, takes his students through a 16-hour course to ensure that, unlike the bumbling Warner Brothers cartoon character, they don't end up blowing themselves, or any innocent bystanders, to smithereens.

"We discuss principles of firearm safety, social responsibilities and laws and regulations pertaining to transportation and storage," he said. "We also practise safe handling, loading and unloading, and making sure that the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction."

The course is spread over two days, and is offered approximately seven times a year as part of Conestoga

College's continuing education program. The most recent group of around 25 people attended the class on May 29-30 in a room in the woodworking building.

"We discuss principles of firearm safety, social responsibilities and laws and regulations pertaining to transportation and storage. We also practise safe handling, loading and unloading and making sure that the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction."

Don Gibson,  
Canadian firearms  
safety instructor

In order to buy, borrow or lend any type of firearm in Canada, it is necessary to obtain a Firearms Possession and Acquisition Licence by passing a test that includes both written and practical components, Gibson said. He estimates that few people who take the test without first completing the course will get their licence.

Gibson has been teaching firearms safety since 1994, after having completed 100 hours of training in order to qualify as an examiner.

The course combines instruction in non-restricted firearms (hunting rifles and shotguns) and restricted firearms (handguns). There are written



Matthew Wawzonek checks out a hunting rifle at the Canadian firearms safety course May 29 at the Doon Campus.

(Photo by John Oberholtzer)

and practical tests in each classification.

After successfully meeting the standards of the course, Gibson said, it takes anywhere from one to six months for a student to get a licence from the Canadian Firearms Centre in Miramichi, N.B. This process was centralized by the federal government in 1994 under Bill C-68, he said.

"You have to submit an application and a passport photo, there's a police background check and sometime down the road they send you your

card," he said.

The licence replaces the previous document, the Firearms Acquisition Certificate, which was obtained from the provincial government after completion of the course and an investigation by local police. Gibson believes that the pre-1994 method was a more efficient one.

"If you were a small town boy and a local police officer knew you were OK, that's the best check you could possibly have," he said. "And in two weeks, you've got your certificate."

He estimates 15 to 20 per cent of the people in his class are law and security students, another 20 per cent are taking the course out of general interest and the remainder are recreational shooters and hunters.

Gibson, who also co-ordinates the college's motorcycle driver training course, is a hunter himself and a man of many interests.

"In real life, I guess we'll say I'm an amateur commodities trader," he said. "But I like this more than almost anything else I do."

## Conestoga grad juggles his time

By Adam Wilson

Balancing a family, a full-time job and a business that is beginning to blossom would be a hard job for most people, but Jeff Horseman is finding the time he needs to do all three.

"There is an extreme time commitment (running a business) that can seem trying at times," said Horseman about Vital Signs, his company in Port Elgin.

Vital Signs employees teach different forms of first aid. Through the business, you can take courses such as first aid and other related subjects.

"Basically, we teach any course under first aid laid down by the Red Cross," said Horseman, adding that he had started the business at an opportune time.

"There was a need for first aid and CPR safety courses in the area, and we're trying to meet the needs of the public."

Horseman said so far, Vital Signs has been successful.

"We're training a lot of people these days in a good life skill."

He said there are three main groups of people who are taking advantage of Vital Signs. "Our biggest clientele is the general public and middle-to-late high school students who need to take either a first-aid course or a CPR course for university or college."

Next is the babysitting people

and third is people who are already in the life-saving industry.

"There aren't a lot of 35-year-olds taking first aid for the heck of it," said Horseman. "They're taking it because they need it for one reason or another."

Aside from the business, Horseman is also a primary care paramedic in Owen Sound. He said it's hard balancing the business and his full-time job, but it can be done.

"It's hard trying to keep my professional career out of the business or vice versa," said Horseman. "It's hard, but it can be balanced. Shift work doesn't help either."

Horseman graduated from Conestoga College in 1992 from what was then called the ambulance and emergency care program (now the paramedic program).

"I chose Conestoga on a recommendation from a colleague," he said. "I liked the campus and the people. I liked the interviewing process and was impressed with the faculty."

Having never taken a course on how to run a business, Horseman said he is relying on some old techniques he learned in high school.

"I took a lot of business courses in high school like accounting."

If you want to get in touch with Vital Signs, e-mail them at [vitalsigns@bmts.com](mailto:vitalsigns@bmts.com), or call 1-800-260-8560.

## Students to receive award June 22

By Janet Wakutz

A team of five students from the construction engineering technology program won the Mastercraft Award after squaring off against a team from woodworking technology and a team from civil engineering technology.

Although the competition took place at the end of May, the award - \$500 and an inscribed, framed guild shield representing their program - will be presented by President John Tibbits at the afternoon convocation ceremony on June 22.

The winning project presented to judges was a research site investigation in costing and preparation of a multi-level apartment building for seniors in downtown Kitchener. Team members included Jason Gerrard, Jeffrey Mercus, Lewis Lamb, Brian Yundt and Diane Lord-Cottou.

Jason Gerrard's older brother Jim, a graduate, also won the mastercraft competition when he was a woodworking student at Conestoga College.

Gerrard won Ontario Gold in a Skills Canada competition in Architectural CADD (computer-automated design and drafting).

Old CD Use # 187:

# MODERN ART

LET US BUY YOUR USED CDS CASH OR CREDIT

**USED CD**  **OUTLET**

385 Fairway Road S  
**KITCHENER**  
(Canadian Tire Plaza)  
**893-2464**

415 Hespler Road,  
**CAMBRIDGE**  
(Across from McDonald's)  
**622-7774**

402 King Street N.  
**WATERLOO**  
(Between Harvey's & Burger King)  
**884-7376**

23 Wellington Road E,  
**GUELPH**  
(Across from Wendy's)  
**823-5341**



# Urban culture celebrated

## New skateboard park launched at Waterloo Arena

By Angela Clayfield

With fresh hip hop blaring from one side and the sound of plastic wheels on plywood and pavement on the other, a perfectly safe and regulated portable skateboard park is born.

The Urban Circus took place June 5 at the Waterloo Arena (a.k.a. the bubble) and attracted skaters of all ages from 10 to 21. It was a celebration of everything urban culture has to offer, pulling skateboarding, DJs, break dancing, graphic art and fashion shows together to make for some of the most outrageous outfits out there.

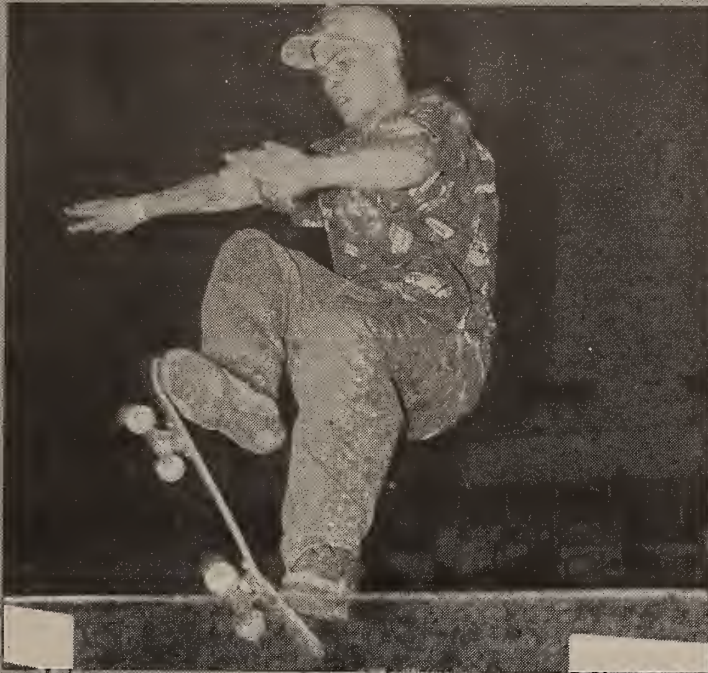
Julie Marshall, whose idea it was to create the park, said it was difficult to put together on her own because she was playing by the rules of a municipality that didn't fully understand urban cultures like skaters and hip hoppers.

Considering this, Marshall is unsure about the Urban Circus becoming an annual event. "We have to revamp, tighten things up a bit."

Marshall agreed that more promotion would have brought a more diverse crowd from across the region. The event attracted mainly youths from Waterloo with the exception of demo teams on skateboards and trial mountain bikes (a squat version of a mountain bike with pegs at both wheels for doing 360s).

The City of Waterloo, the owner of the park, can now keep

### OFF CAMPUS



Burt Renolds catches some air at the new portable skate park in the Waterloo Arena. (Photo by Angela Clayfield)

the costs of upkeep to a minimum said Betty Recchia, a culture service associate who describes herself as a liaison between the municipality and urban youth. Recchia said the cost of maintaining a skate park is a substantial expense. The cost of repairs and construction to the permanent site last year was \$7,000.

Recchia said this park will be easier to maintain because it will be packed up every night to

avoid vandalism. The previous park, located behind the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, was not portable and was frequently used as a cement canvas by local graffiti artists.

The new park, which has yet to be named, will be rented out to whoever is interested. Marshall said they are looking into bringing it to schools and community centres around Waterloo Region. "The objective is to get it into other neighbourhoods."

# E-mail letters tracked if problems reported

By Brian Gall

Though their e-mail is not specifically monitored, Conestoga students should know that backup files are made of messages they keep on file, according to a software technician at the college.

"If you put it (an e-mail) into a folder and it stays overnight, we'll catch it on the backup," said Wayne Hewitt.

A record, including who sent and received the message, what time it was sent and how long it was, is kept for five weeks by computer services.

Backups are made every night at 10:30, but some messages get by, depending on when they are deleted.

"If you had a message come in, and read it then deleted it (immediately), I'd never see it, we wouldn't know about it," said Hewitt, who is in charge of making the reserves at Conestoga. "(But) if you file them, we've got them."

This tracking, using a software program called Backup Exec from Seagate, is done to fix problems with every account at the college, including those of teachers, Hewitt said.

He added that it is more work to try to exclude directories than it is to back up everything.

Though problems have been limited at Conestoga, the reserve system proved helpful just before last Christmas when a student became a victim of mail-bombing (the sending of a couple thousand messages).

Someone was also forging messages — writing a message without the proper addresses, so it looks like it is coming from somebody else.

"The person who was getting the fictitious messages reported it to security. Security talked to us (computer services) and we managed to track it down. (It) turned out that the same person who was mail-bombing was also the person that was forging mail-messages," Hewitt said.

E-mail does not have the same privileges of regular mail, and does not have the same privacy.

In fact, there have been a number of cases in the U.S., such as with Bill Gates, where e-mail has been recorded and brought back for disciplinary reasons, Hewitt said.

"Typically you don't own the e-mail, you're not entitled to privacy, so therefore treat it like a postcard," he recommended, adding that anyone can pick it up as it goes by.

"If it's confidential, don't send it via e-mail. Or if it is, consider encrypting it," Hewitt suggested. Encrypting involves running a program that turns the message into a code, and the person on the other end has the decoding key.

Hewitt said e-mail messages are not looked at unless a problem is reported.

"We may not know what's there, and most times we don't care what's there. The only time we get involved with e-mail stuff is if there is abuse. Other than that, the college's policy is they don't really care."

# Alumni services sells discounted tickets for big name attractions

By Janet Wakutz

A busload of international students enjoyed a visit to the African Lion Safari at the end of May, and they did it with discounted tickets.

Alumni services offers reduced rate tickets to Paramount Canada's Wonderland north of Toronto, African Lion Safari in Rockton near Cambridge, and Sportsworld in Kitchener, which recently underwent renovations and expansion.

Monica Himmelman, alumni services officer at Conestoga College, said the offer of discounted tickets is available to students, faculty and alumni. Overall, the savings amount to about a 35 per cent discount.

"Offering discounted prices is an alumni service," said Himmelman.

Tickets can be purchased by phone (ext. 459) or fax (748-3542) and prices include tax but there is a \$2 handling fee. The tickets may also be picked up from the alumni services office or

sent by courier at no additional charge. Payment can be made in cash or by cheque made out to Alumni Association of Conestoga College.

The biggest discount is offered by Wonderland. On Aug. 23, a one-day pass for an adult that usually sells for \$39 will cost \$19 for alumni. A pass on any other day costs alumni \$32. An alumni association's 1999 ticket price list, that itemizes ticket costs for all three attractions, is available from alumni services.

Overall, the savings amount to about a 35 per cent discount.

Alumni services is considering adding other attractions for next year; however, they will only work with organizations that will sell tickets on consignment. In this way, tickets are paid for at the end of the season and unused tickets can be returned to the attraction company by alumni services.

"I'm looking into the Metro (Toronto) Zoo for next year, if they do consignment sales," said Himmelman.

The discounted tickets can be purchased for children, seniors and adults.

# Project assists students with learning disabilities

By Linda Wright

When you hear the name Group of Seven, you might think of seven great Canadian artists, but in reference to Conestoga College's special needs department, there is another group of seven.

The group is part of a pilot project designed to test new support services to increase the academic success of students with specific learning disabilities.

Rick Casey, a special needs transition counsellor, is part of the learning opportunities project which has been under way for a year now.

Conestoga College was one of eight sites at post-secondary institutions in Ontario to receive provincial funding totaling \$30 million. Conestoga will receive approximately \$2.7 million over a four-year period.

In addition to Casey, Conestoga's group of seven includes Marian Mainland, Barry Cull, Lynn Gresham, Charlie Matjanec, Su Lyttle and Marlene Breen.

In 1985, Casey may have seen 12 special needs students; now he sees 340 students. They cross all disability groupings such as

physically and learning disabled.

Casey is a liaison to students with learning disabilities, school teachers and parents in Waterloo Region secondary schools. He helps teachers, students and parents understand the project and updates them with the demands of post-secondary studies.

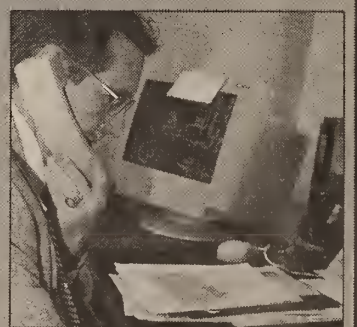
"Students with learning disabilities must meet the same academic criteria as everyone else to get into a program," said Casey. Only persons with average or above average ability, as measured on a standard intelligence test, are accepted for the pilot project, he said.

It is important for the students to understand their disability. Some don't ask questions and don't understand the limitations of their disability.

Casey tries to identify their strengths and helps the students develop a personal learning program.

"It was a bonus getting the pilot project," said Casey. With cut-backs meaning fewer special education teachers and psychologists, he worries about what impact it will have on children with learning disabilities.

A problem Casey encounters most often is speed of process



Rick Casey, special needs transition counsellor, books appointments for students who will require his services. (Photo by Linda Wright)

deficit. An example of this deficit is when a teacher is giving a lecture, a student may not be able to write or get the right words down quick enough, so they fall behind. A solution may be to borrow notes or ask an instructor for handout material. The student may get extended time when writing a test. If a student is dyslexic, Casey might be able to put course material on tape.

It's not their intellectual level that's lacking; it's the way the learning disabled person processes information.

"I try to make a seamless transition from high school to college to the world of work," he said.



# Truckfest promotes road safety to public

By Michelle Lehmann

The Road Knights Trucker Association Inc. enjoyed another successful Truckfest at Bingemans Park June 5 and 6.

"The goal of Truckfest is to enhance the image of the Trucking Industry, educate the public, stage an event for the entire family and donate any proceeds towards child-related charities," said Jamie Reaume, promotion co-director of the event.

Reaume said it has gained popularity over the past seven years and hoped to draw at least 7,000 spectators over the two days.

"The truckers are trying to show people they are not just a bunch of rednecks," said Reaume. "Truckfest has really become a sophisticated event."

He said the people involved with the event are part of the community and in the transportation-related industry. They want to stage a truck show which is different from the rest.

"We made it a family-oriented one that is fun for all," said Reaume.

Truckfest has become a time for truckers to get together for some

## Off Campus

friendly competition and work toward changing media perception, he said.

There were clowns, live music, a juggler, a demolition derby, go-cart races between truckers, an education centre and, of course, judging of the transport trucks on display.

"We make it wide open to attract lots of people for different reasons," said Reaume. "But it's really for the charities."

Joann Greeley, a volunteer, said she has been involved with the event right from the start and has watched it grow and change over the years.

"It's just a great weekend. It's lots of fun and all for a good cause," said Greeley. "What more could you ask for?"

The Road Knights Trucker Association began meeting in August 1991.

The local charities that benefit from Truckfest are Child Find Ontario, Big Sisters of Kitchener-Waterloo Area and Cambridge Big Sisters.

All proceeds from the \$10

admission help with Big Sisters' programs and publicity projects for Child Find.

The education/information centre was the focus of this year's event.

"It's a chance to educate both the industry and public on the new techniques, training devices and legislation from the Ministry of Transportation," said Norm McIntyre, education director of the event.

McIntyre said they scheduled a variety of forums to keep everyone interested.

Share the Road is a campaign to educate the public about driving with trucks.

Demonstrations showed how up to 200 feet actually fit into the blind spots of transport trucks.

Some of the other booths introduced the latest trucking technology like laser video eye tracking systems and driving simulators, the mobile inspection station that patrols the K-W area, anti-theft devices and Scott's Canine services to sniff out drugs.

McIntyre said the range of valuable information and innovative technology attracts drivers, managers, safety inspectors and even



Bumper, the official mascot of Truckfest '99, was guided by volunteer Jen Barnes on June 5 at Bingemans Park. Kids got their photo taken with Bumper on Saturday and Sunday.

(Photo by Michelle Lehmann)

the general public, all for one reasonable price that you can't get anywhere else.

"Truckfest is the only time the

entire association can get together and collectively promote road safety," said McIntyre. "It works really well."

## Conference exposes young women to non-traditional jobs

By Linda Wright

Whatever your lot in life, build something on it, about 200 Grade 9 students attending a Women Motion conference at Conestoga College were told.

Akela Peoples, Women in Motion director, asked the students what this phrase meant.

"It's your life and you have to fill it up with your dreams," replied a student.

The conference, urged the girls to start thinking about a career now.

The students, who came from five district high schools, were told to broaden their horizons. The conference gave the girls an opportunity to meet women in non-traditional occupations.

Each table, of about seven participants, had a facilitator who was in a non-traditional occupation. There were firefighters, mechanics, welders, electricians, environmental engineers and robotic welders. Throughout the conference there was a career flash.

When the career flash was announced, a facilitator stood up



Sarah Maitland, left, and Leah Maley, from Preston high school, try the super nail game at a conference for young women held at Conestoga College June 1.

(Photo by Linda Wright)

and talk about her career.

Kathy MacLean talked about

bombing."

Another facilitator, Sherry

being a pyro technician.

"I blow things up. It's a great stress reliever."

MacLean works in the film industry dealing with explosives and has a licence to work in mines. "When a car blows up in a movie it takes 30 seconds," she said, "but it takes three or four hours to prepare the

Waddell, a Kitchener firefighter, told the girls that her job was physically demanding. The equipment weighs about 23 kilos. "If you see us on a hot, summer day and we're running up a flight of stairs panting, it's because of all the extra weight we have to carry around." Firefighters also answer medical calls.

The worst call she responded to was a stabbing at a Pizza Pizza establishment. "It was pretty messy," said Waddell.

The facilitators traveled from table to table.

They were asked questions about their education, background and financial aspects of their career.

Julie Luffman, an assistant instructor in machine shop, has been teaching a Women into Trades and Technology (WITT) course at Niagara College since 1996. The students are usually 20 to 50 years old. "The women can't believe what they can do," Luffman learned a lot from her dad and they often talked shop, she said.

Her skills helped the girls with an assignment called the hand tools quiz, a matching game where the girls had to match a tool with its name.

Throughout the conference, Peoples gave the young women advice on resume writing, interviewing skills and how to make a good first impression. The conference was intended to motivate the girls to think about different career choices.

Christal MacDonald, a student from Elmvalc high school, said she had a few career ideas. "I hope to find a different job, something non-traditional."

Sarah Maitland, a student from Preston high school, said she was nervous at first, but felt comfortable after seeing other girls at the conference. "Now I am thinking about different careers and it's a great opportunity to be here."

## Anxiety course helps students change lifestyles

By Michelle Lehmann

Student services offered a new course for the first time this past semester, which taught students how to cope with anxiety.

Joan Magazine, student services counsellor, said the course was limited to people who have experienced some form of anxiety and about 24 students signed up.

"It's not only a theory group but it's also a participatory group," said Magazine. "I think it was very successful."

Considering the course could only be taken by a limited group, Magazine said she was surprised with the results.

The course, entitled Anxiety and Personal Performance, has a design never before offered.

It covers the definition of anxiety, how it manifests itself and techniques for prevention and improving personal performance.

She said the course consisted of

three different sections — two weeks of theory, seven weeks of workshops and six weeks of application. The first two weeks of the semester were used as a major introductory theory where students learned about anxiety.

For the next seven weeks the class was split into three small groups, each taught by student services counsellors Carol Gregory, Barb Kraler or Magazine. They addressed test anxiety, public speaking anxiety or personal performance anxiety.

"This section was a combination of theory and personal sharing and application," said Magazine. "It gave students a chance to see they are not alone."

The remaining six weeks focused on an independent project related to a specific concern.

She said organizers received little negative feedback. Based on the evaluation and comments, Magazine said, a few changes

will be made to the syllabus and marking scheme the next time it is offered.

According to Magazine, the course will again be offered only during the winter semester.

"For the most part, we were told how valuable it was," she said. "It was reassuring not only to hear good things, but actually to see good things happening to the students."

Magazine said teachers saw success. Students became less anxious which in turn led to weight loss, reductions in caffeine in-take and changes in diet, exercise and sleep patterns.

"It was created out of a need, not just for an area of interest," said Magazine.

A number of students come to student services with issues of anxiety, but many do not have time to attend extra workshops or courses, so it was created as an elective course that students get

credit for, she said.

"It's the kind of thing that can be dealt with on an individual basis," said Magazine. "But it works very well in a group setting because individuals can deal with their anxieties in a collective and supportive environment."

Anxiety is a problem among the general public and is considered the No. 1 mental health issue, but people do not hear much about it, she said.

"It exists for all people but it's students who are called upon to perform," said Magazine. "Social anxiety has to do with being judged or viewed and that's a big part of school."

She said students must learn to deal with anxiety because if they cannot pass tests or give presentations, they will not succeed.

"The pressure is increased to do the things that bring on anxiety and that's why it comes out more at school," Magazine said.



# Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan* a gripping, disturbing meditation on war

By Charles Kuepfer

There is nothing glamorous about war, and *Saving Private Ryan*, which was recently released on home video, doesn't paint over war's ugliness.

If anything, it makes it almost too realistic to bear.

It isn't a pleasant two-and-a-half hours of entertainment, but it is a gripping, de-glorification of life in the heat of D-Day action during the Second World War.

The film, starring Tom Hanks (*You've Got Mail*), centres around the attempts of a group of men led by Captain Miller (Hanks) to find, and send home, Private James Ryan (Matt Damon) from the heat of battle.

The movie begins with Ryan returning to Normandy, France as an old man, to visit Miller's grave amongst a sea of white crosses. Ryan drops to his knees overcome with emotion and the camera slowly zooms into his haunting eyes, before taking us back to June 6, 1944 and the American troops' D-Day assault on Omaha beach.

The following battle scene is graphic, with director Steven Spielberg depicting arguably the most realistic carnage ever to be put on film.

While the bloodshed is excessive, it does put the viewer direct-



(Internet photo)

ly in the shoes of a soldier thrust into battle for the first time.

The cinematography is incredible throughout the movie and helps to produce that time-standing-still feeling you sometimes get in the most awful circumstances.

The Americans eventually take Omaha beach, but Miller is overheard on his radio saying, "The first wave was ineffective." And with the camera surveying the body-littered beach, while dead-fish and blood wash up on the shore, Miller's words seem like a

gross understatement.

From here, we learn of Miller's new mission "which has come straight from the top": to find Private James Ryan and send him back home to his mother in Iowa. Ryan's mother has already lost three sons in battle, including one during the Omaha beach operation.

The rest of the film surrounds Miller's attempts to find Private Ryan, somewhere in the French countryside. He is accompanied by seven men who struggle to

accept the purpose of the mission, which risks the lives of eight men in the hopes of saving one.

Miller and his men lament over trying to find "a needle in a haystack", which takes them to pockets of allied troops stationed in northern France.

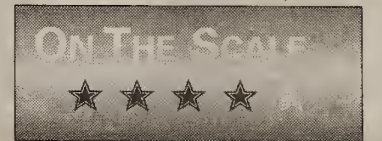
They eventually stumble upon Private Ryan, who is reluctant to leave his fellow soldiers. If they don't get to leave, why should he? This sets up the film's dramatic ending, where Miller and his men aid Ryan and his battalion in

solidifying the Allies' control of one of two remaining bridges in which the Germans don't control.

The movie, which won five Oscars, has been called one of the greatest war movies of all time. It is carried by the strong acting of Hanks, who convincingly plays Captain Miller, and by a cast of strong, yet virtually unknown, supporting actors. The film, though at times violent (as war most often is), does not use violence to maintain the viewer's attention. The dialogue and character-interaction throughout the movie help move the movie along, keeping it thought-provoking and fluid. If there is a weakness in *Saving Private Ryan*, it is the anticlimatic discovery of Ryan, the sole purpose of Miller's mission. The advance on Omaha Beach and the final battle scenes securing the bridge are weighted far more heavily.

But all in all, *Saving Private Ryan* is a solid film.

It is somewhat one-sided in its focus on the American D-Day efforts. But it does set out to tell us a moving story, which it does.



## Romantic *Notting Hill* is not a let-down

By Carly Benjamin

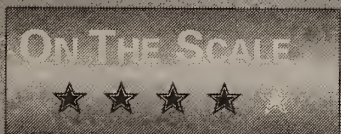
*Notting Hill* is a Cinderella story about a glamorous, gorgeous, world-famous movie star who falls for an ordinary, unassuming, struggling bookstore owner.

Julia Roberts, as Anna Scott, and Hugh Grant, as William Thacker, successfully develop a fairy tale relationship, complete with a villain, that only happens in the movies.

Screenwriter Richard Curtis, who wrote *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, and director Roger Michell have fashioned a fantasy that deals with the obsessions people develop for movie stars. The audience is forced to face the inevitable truth: the movie stars we idolize make mistakes, just like the rest of us.

The movie kicks off with a video collage of Scott, basking in the glow of flashbulbs, but it is actual footage of Roberts, as herself, arriving at various premieres like *Conspiracy Theory*, among others. Scenes like this make you fall into the hands of the movie and believe what you are seeing is a real-life adventure. They hit home the underlying reality behind the scenes of the script.

The plot is not complicated, but it is filled with dips and dives that eventually unveil a true love story.



Scott plants a kiss on Thacker's naive lips, takes his breath away, goes to his sister's birthday party, charms the pants off his friends who are won over by her unpretentious wit, and finally steals his heart.

All the while she abruptly falls out of his life, drives him crazy, re-enters his life, makes passionate love to him followed by her having an appalling hissy-fit, and then leaves him again.

The setting for this humour-soaked film is London, England. Thacker's flatmate has an endless supply of one-liners and lightens the mood after an intense love sequence.

At one point, great fun is had at the roommate's expense when he opens the door of their flat, dressed only in his tattered briefs, to a sea of photojournalists and reporters who have discovered the relationship between Scott and Thacker. The flatmate decides to ham it up for the camera, flexing his minuscule muscles and waving to the nation, instead of being discrete.

This movie will appease both sexes, with humour for the guys intertwined with a romantic love story.

## Wallpaper magazine supplies the world with papier mache

By Brad Dugard

Some ideas are just plain bad. In the '70s it was polyester, the '80s saw the birth of dance music and in the '90s one of the worst ideas is Wallpaper magazine.

This two-pound, six-ounce \$6.95 US behemoth is a colossal waste of both time and money.

Introduced as a small, upscale fashion/travel/design magazine in 1994, Wallpaper grew substantially after Time-Life took it over from Canadian editor Tyler Brule after only four issues had gone to press.

This move apparently gave Brule both the money and the resources to publish the magazine he always dreamed of publishing.



(photo by Brad Dugard)

### Magazine Review

The problem is, it is terrible.

Allow me to expand. Brule has created a magazine that is graphically stunning. The professional advertising people he has on staff are truly gifted. Massive ad layouts, tied to upscale clients, produce what can only be described as art. However, the problem is the markets those ads cater to.

While it is nice for the proletariat to be able to see how the other side lives, it has marginalized the magazine to such a degree that only people with serious cash-ola could ever hope to afford the basest of items displayed in Wallpaper.

Worse yet are the articles.

The May/June edition of this glossy fantasy book is subtitled *Wanderlust* to denote its travel theme. The articles include a right-field piece about he-le-commuting to work or to breakfast, and four articles debating the merits of various airports around the globe, all in a clear-as-mud writing style.

An excerpt from the magazine: "What keeps us and savvy Mitteleuropeans going back for more is not just the fussy Habsburg attention to detail but the fact that up in Amadeus Class

they've contracted the catering out to Do & Co."

They have managed to dilute any possible useful information contained in the articles.

This bimonthly magazine, with a worldwide circulation of 102,000, is useful for two things. First, graphic designers may find the layout, design and stunning photography useful for generating ideas. The second use is as a ready supply of papier mache material.

If you make over \$1 million net per year, you may be interested in picking up a copy of Wallpaper. You can find it taking up space in bookstores everywhere.

### TRAVEL-TEACH ENGLISH

5 days/40 hr.  
(Aug. 4-8 in Guelph)  
TESOL teacher cert.  
course  
(or by correspondence)

1,000's of jobs  
Available NOW!

Free info pack, Toll free:  
1-888-270-2941



## Off Campus

# At this show, everyone's eyes were on the hairstyles — really

Story & Photos by Lesley Turnbull

Model Dionne Scholten struts her stuff at the Elements of Style hair and fashion show.

Sparks flew, fireworks screamed across the ceiling, lights flashed and loud music was pumped throughout the second annual Elements of Style charity hair and fashion show on May 30 at the Revolution nightclub in Waterloo.

"I thought it was amazing," said Toby Poirier, event organizer for the show. "I was quite impressed."

Poirier said that people think they have to go to places like New York and Toronto to see talent.

"The talent in this community is just astronomical."

The theme of the show was avant-garde and fantasy.

The Moree School of Dance started off the show with an energetic performance of Brittany Spears' hit song Baby One More Time.

Delirium clothing and accessories took over and showed off their fashions.

Lots of tight, black and red leather was used in the fashion show.

Whips, chains and devils ears were also used.

A hush fell over the

crowd when the first salon appeared on the runway.

Chameleon Hair Studio and Spa designed a hairstyle and costume that resembled a peacock, though only using the barest accessories.

The model had two peacock feathers on her breasts, a feathered thong and green shoes to match.

Her hair consisted of long blond twists and feathers and her face was painted with blue, green and white frost makeup.

Poirier said the audience was shocked by the show.

"I'm sure we gave a few people heart attacks."

Hot Heads Salon, where Poirier is an apprentice, used an African theme for their segment of the show.

The music had an African feel to it and the models were dressed in African motif.

The women had short, animal print sarongs, bangles on their wrists and colourful face makeup.

Their hair was done up with vibrant-coloured feathers.

The guys were dressed in animal print material with a flap covering their front and backside. Their faces were painted and they carried bamboo sticks down the runway.

Most of the women in the audience giggled at the end of the show when two of the male models turned around, pulled up their flaps and flashed the audience.

The Cutting Room's theme was butterflies. The main butterfly had massive, bright-coloured wings which were

attached to her arms. Sec-through bodysuits clothed the models with strategically placed flames of fuschia, royal blue and silver material.

Other themes included the beginning of life, the future and four different countries.

The whole show went from one end of the spectrum to the other, Poirier said, adding that each salon spent an average of about \$1,000.

"And they were doing this for charity. They didn't expect anything in return."

Poirier said proceeds from the event are still coming in so a total has not yet been released. All money raised will go to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario and the Aids Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener-Waterloo and Area.

Organizers were expecting an audience of about 1,400 but only around 630 showed up.

"I think the weather played a role in it (the turnout)," Poirier said. "I think it was too hot. We had a few calls saying they would have been there but they went to the beach or their cottage."

Poirier was extremely grateful to all of the volunteers that helped with the show, saying they were amazing.

Next year's show will be based on sponsorship to keep production costs from eating into the proceeds for the charities.

The production team is meeting in two weeks for next year's show.

"Even before the show was over I was thinking about next year's show," said Poirier.



# Students bare their emotions for their art

By Elizabeth Sackrider

What happens when you combine an extensive art collection with the minds of 12 high school students who have never met?

You get Naked Emotion, a swirl of bare thoughts and open feelings of different people.

The art exhibit currently running at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery is the project of a dozen co-operative education students who had a chance to be curators for their work term.

"It was difficult because there were 12 different voices to listen to," said Rebecca Holst, a student from Rockway Mennonite Collegiate.

She said she admits the project was hard and frustrating, but it was also exciting.

"It was really good, though, to see the final product," she said.

The catalogue and exhibition represents more than hard work and an experience for the 12 students, it also represents the art gallery's first partnership with the

region's boards of education.

"Working with young people who don't know where they're going was sometimes hard," said curator Lupe Rodriguez. "Everyone had their own opinions."

Rodriguez said the most intriguing

sense of directness."

Karen Scott Booth, director of education at the gallery, said the project was a combination of hard work and perseverance.

"It was a challenge to work with so many new faces," she said.



"We have seen every aspect of what it takes to be a curator. It was difficult because there were 12 different voices to listen to."

Rebecca Holst, Rockway student

ing part about this exhibition is the honesty of the title, Naked Emotion.

"Young people can be very direct in their opinions," she said in her intro. "They can sometimes be painfully blunt as they search for the ultimate truth. As an adult I sometimes lose touch with this

The 12 students chosen to be a part of this experience were Alexis Barkman, Carolyn Crozier, Victoria Gervais, David Graff, Rebecca Holst, Sandy Jandu, Kersta Kerstenbeck, Sarah Lynn MacDonald, Annette Martin, Heather Saynor, Rachel Smith and Krista von Raesfeld.

The result of their dedication was 28 artworks on display from various Canadian artists. The creations are all part of the K-W gallery's permanent collection.

"What the artist created and what appeared is not always what it seems to be," said Gervais.

For instance, a painting which may be visually moving may have been created in a day and the meaning may be totally opposite of the first impression.

"The artists we interviewed gave candid responses," she said. "The definition of art does not always go with the art itself."

Upon entering the exhibition, John Ward's Hosta #1 painting, immediately draws your attention with its crayon colours of yellow, red and green. The large painting became the "spokes-work" for the exhibit.

Also on display were drawings by Karen Fletcher. Her work was striking because the one piece consisted of two parts. On top was a work with her body and the bot-

tom piece was the hands.

At the end of their high school career most students take part in some type of co-operative education. The high school co-op experience can be a less than inspiring experience; the student can spend more time fetching coffee than learning.

However the opposite was true for this experience, said Holst.

"We have seen every aspect of what it takes to be a curator," she said.

The program also helped some students to overcome anxiety.

"Being in the program helped me to not be so shy," said Heather Saynor, who spoke to the large group attending the opening on June 3. "Before I would not be able to speak in front of all of you (audience)."

## Off Campus